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DOCTOR WHO

A Fairytale Life

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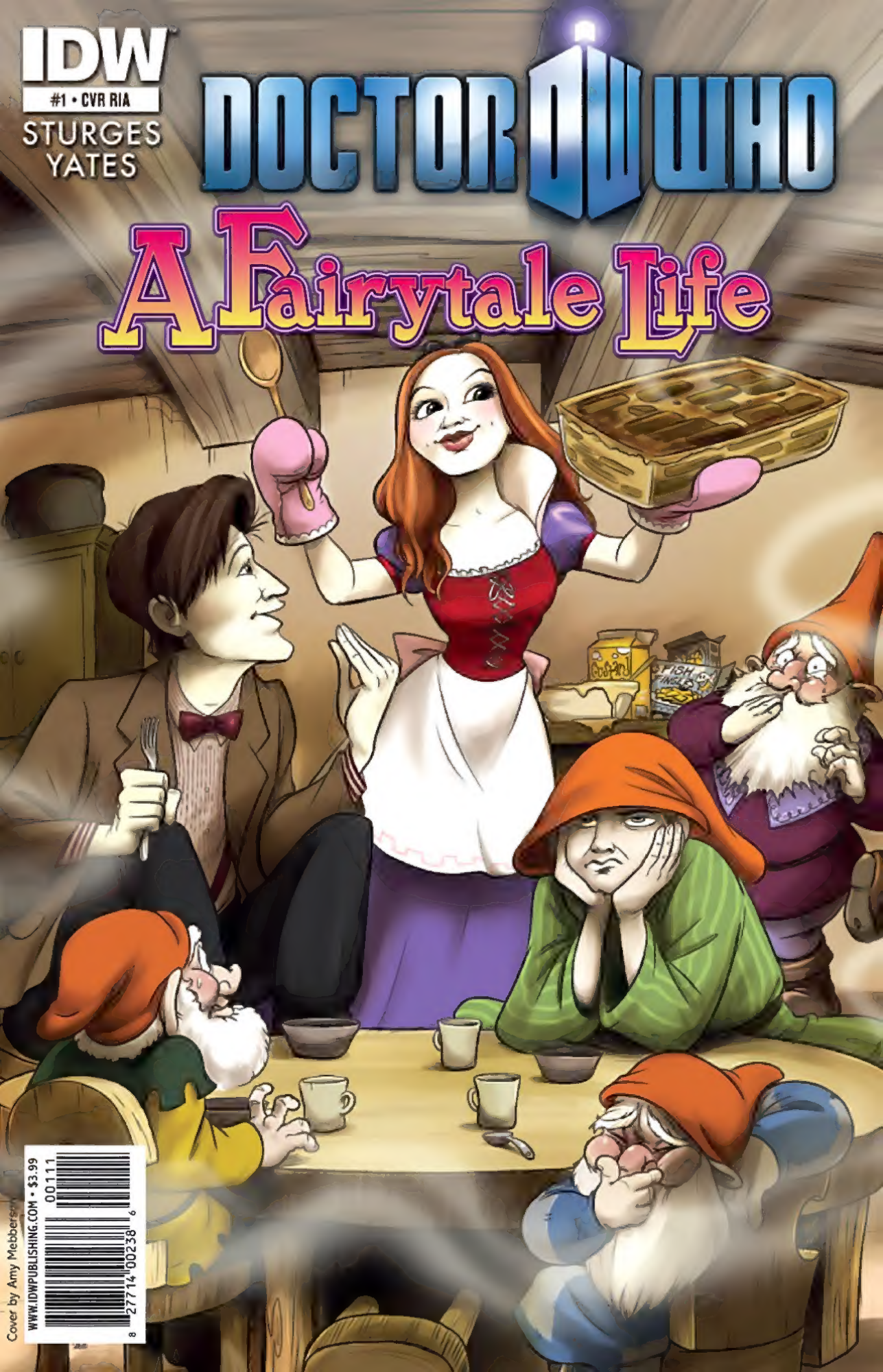

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DOCTOR WHO

A FAIRYTALE LIFE

Part **1** of **4**

The story of the Doctor...

The Doctor is an alien, the last of the powerful Time Lords. He is an intrepid traveller through time and space, armed only with his incredible intelligence and his fix-anything sonic screwdriver. He travels alone except for the human companions he befriends, briefly sharing his life with them and showing them the astonishing wonders of the universe.

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WHAT SHALL WE PLAY NEXT?
LET'S PLAY HOUSE! I'LL BE THE MUM, AND JOON CAN BE THE DAD, AND ELIM CAN BE—
NO, LET'S PLAY SPACE BATTLE! JOON AND I'LL BE THE HUMANS, AND YOU BE AN EVIL WAR-PRIEST OF THE HOLY HADROJASSIC MAXARODENFOE!
BUT I'M ALWAYS THE HOLY HADROJASSIC MAXARODENFOE!
OH, STOP BEING SUCH A PEST!
AAAAH!
OW! MY ANKLE!
SPLISH
HELP! I THINK I'VE BROKEN MY ANKLE!
JOON, WE HAVE TO GO.

DON'T LEAVE ME!
RUN!

I'M SORRY, AURELIA! I'M SORRY!

NO! NO! HELP!

AIEEEEEEEEE!

SO, POND. WHERE TO NEXT?
SUPERNOVA? AZTEC EMPIRE? THE EDIBLE MOON OF CASCATRIX MINOR?
OH, I DON'T KNOW. HOW ABOUT KING'S STREET IN MANCHESTER?
I CAN TAKE YOU ANYWHERE IN SPACE AND TIME. ANY LOCATION OR EVENT IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE, AND YOU WANT TO GO TO THE SHOPS.
DO YOU THINK THEY SELL CLOTHES LIKE THIS IN LEADWORTH?
NO NO NO. YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT. GIVE ME A CHALLENGE. SOMETHING DIFFICULT TO PULL OFF.
SOMEWHERE YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO GO. SOMETHING SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE.
OKAY, FINE. WHEN I WAS A WEE GIRL—BEFORE I MET YOU, OF COURSE—I ALWAYS WANTED TO GO TO A FAIRYTALE KINGDOM WITH DRAGONS AND KNIGHTS AND WIZARDS AND THAT LOT.
TAKE ME TO ONE OF THOSE.
OH, THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE.
HA! STUMPED YOU FIRST TIME ROUND.
WAIT. NO. POSSIBLE.
POND, YOU'D BETTER GO GET DRESSED!

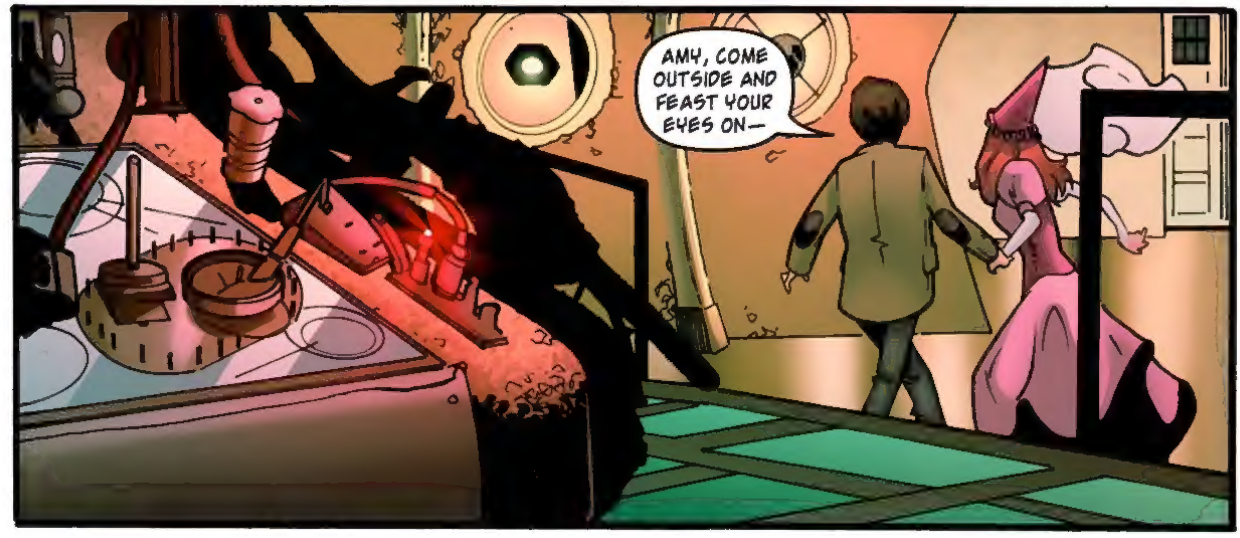
DOCTOR! I CHANGED MY MIND!
POLICE BOX
AH, THERE SHE IS! AMELIA JESSICA POND, FAIRYTALE PRINCESS! BRILLIANT!
I LOOK LIKE AN IDIOT! AND THIS BODICE IS CUTTING OFF THE CIRCULATION TO MY FEET!
HEY! WHY DON'T YOU HAVE TO PUT ON A COSTUME?
I DON'T NEED A COSTUME. PEOPLE'S EYES ARE NATURALLY DRAWN TO THE BOW TIE. THEY SEE THAT AND THEY'RE UTTERLY SATISFIED.
VWORP VWORP
OH, AND LOOK THERE. WE'VE LANDED.
VWORP VWORP WOOP-WHUMP-UMP

SO, ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME WHERE WE'VE LANDED?
NO, NO, NO. IT'S A SURPRISE. YOU'VE GOT TO SEE IT FOR YOURSELF.
PING PING PING

WHAT'S THAT BLINKY RED THING OVER THERE?
PING PING PING

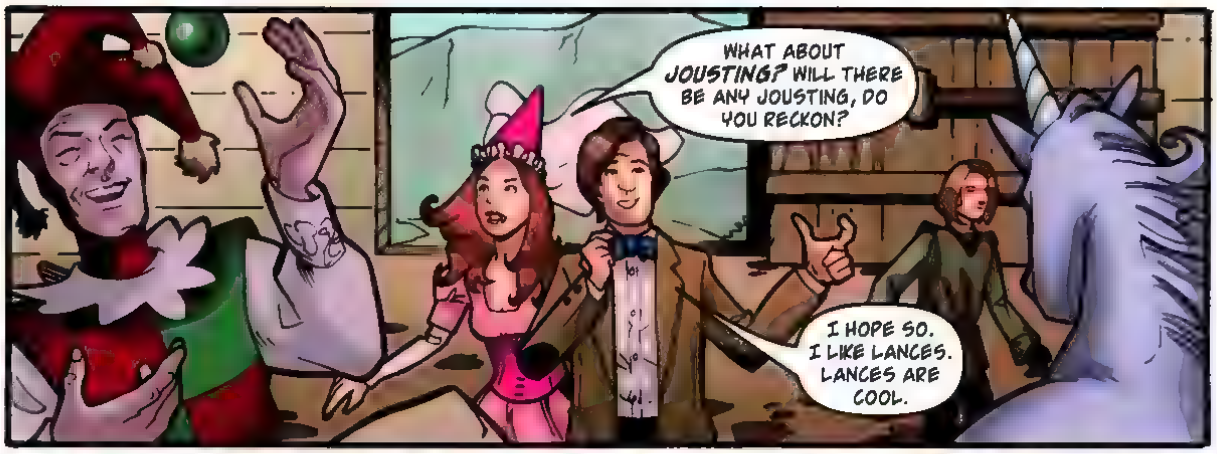
THAT IS IMPORTANT. THAT IS DEFINITELY AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT RED BLINKY THING.
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
PING PING PING

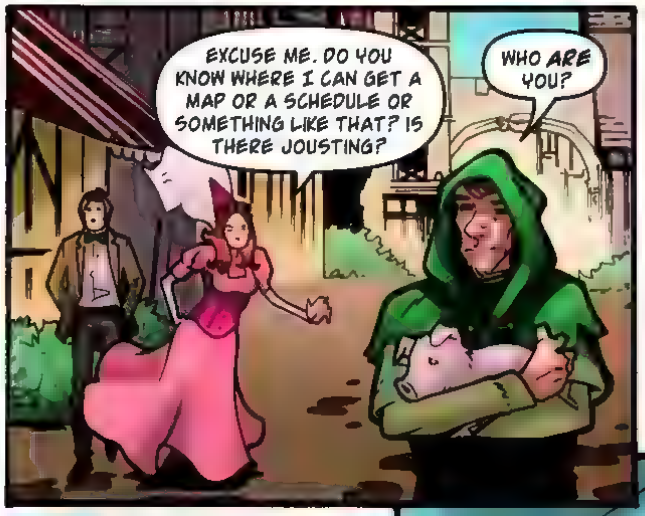
NOT A CLUE.
I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING. LET'S GO.
PING PING PING


AMY, COME OUTSIDE AND FEAST YOUR EYES ON—

POLICE PUBLIC CALL BOX
POLICE PUBLIC CALL BOX
—THIS!
THEY EXPECT EVERYONE TO BE PLAYING A ROLE HERE, THEREFORE I'LL BE A KNIGHT AND YOU CAN BE MY DAMSEL IN DISTRESS.
BIT LIKE ALWAYS, ACTUALLY.
LISTEN, YOU.
I'M NO DAMSEL!
TECHNICALLY, YOU ARE A DAMSEL. IT COMES FROM THE OLD FRENCH 'DAMOISELE'.
ALL IT MEANS IS 'YOUNG WOMAN'.
SAYS YOU.
THIS IS AMAZING!
HOW DOES A PLACE LIKE THIS EVEN EXIST?

AH, YES. WELCOME TO THE YEAR 7704 ON THE PLANET CALIGARIS EPSILON SIX.
ONE OF THE MOST RENOWNED HOLIDAY WORLDS OF THE THIRD GREAT AND BOUNTIFUL HUMAN EMPIRE.
WHICH, BY THE WAY, WAS NEITHER GREAT, NOR BOUNTIFUL, NOR OVERWHELMINGLY HUMAN. BUT WHAT'S IN A NAME?
SO THIS ENTIRE PLANET...
ENGINEERED TO LOOK AND ACT EXACTLY LIKE A MEDIEVAL FANTASY. DASHING KNIGHTS. GENETICALLY ENGINEERED ELVES. CYBORG DRAGONS. IT'S A TOTALLY IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE.
HUMAN INGENUITY, IN ALL ITS DECADENT GLORY! DON'T YOU JUST LOVE IT?
AND THE DASHING KNIGHTS? WHERE WOULD THOSE BE?


WHAT ABOUT JOUSTING? WILL THERE BE ANY JOUSTING, DO YOU RECKON?
I HOPE SO. I LIKE LANCES. LANCES ARE COOL.


EXCUSE ME. DO YOU KNOW WHERE I CAN GET A MAP OR A SCHEDULE OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT? IS THERE JOUSTING?
WHO ARE YOU?

OH, I'M SORRY. ARE YOU A GUEST HERE AS WELL? YOUR COSTUME IS VERY CONVINCING. WELL DONE. LOVELY PIGLET, BY THE WAY.
I DON'T KNOW YOU. WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?

THAT WAS WEIRD. ARE ALL HOLIDAY PLANETS THIS WELCOMING?
SOMETHING DOES SEEM A BIT OFF, DOESN'T IT?

AMY, LOOK THERE. THOSE BOYS DON'T LOOK LIKE THEY'RE HAVING MUCH OF A HOLIDAY, DO THEY?

HELLO, THERE. WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE PROBLEM?

YOU'RE FEELING VERY, VERY BAD ABOUT SOMETHING, AREN'T YOU?
I KNOW THAT LOOK. I KNOW THAT LOOK BECAUSE I WORE IT MYSELF FROM TIME TO TIME WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE.

I PUSHED MY SISTER AURELIA AND SHE GOT HURT, AND THE SERPENTINE CAME AND I JUST STOOD BY AND LET IT HAPPEN!
IT WAS MY FAULT, SIR. I PUSHED HER.

SERPENTINE? AND WHAT'S THAT THEN?
IT COMES FROM THE SKIES AND GETS YOU IF YOU'RE SICK OR IF YOU GET HURT!
DO THEY NOT CALL IT THAT IN YOUR PART OF THE CITY? WHAT PART OF THE CITY ARE YOU FROM?

I'M CALLED THE DOCTOR. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
ELIM, SIR.
BRILLANT NAME, ELIM. LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING, ELIM. DO YOU KNOW WHAT A HOLIDAY PLANET IS?
NO, SIR. IS THAT FROM A STORY?

JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY, HAVE YOU LIVED HERE ALL YOUR LIFE?
YES, SIR. OF COURSE, SIR.
COME ON, JOON. WE SHOULD GO.

ELIM, WAIT. WHERE DID THESE SERPENTINES TAKE YOUR SISTER? I'D VERY MUCH LIKE TO KNOW THAT.

TO THE DREAD TOWER, OF COURSE. WHY ARE YOU ASKING ALL THESE QUESTIONS?

BECAUSE I AM VERY GOOD AT FINDING PEOPLE WHEN I PUT MY MIND TO IT.
PERHAPS I COULD FIND YOUR SISTER.

LET'S GO!

DOCTOR, WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'M LOOKING FOR A PUBLIC ACCESS TERMINAL. THEY HIDE THEM TO MAINTAIN THE ILLUSION.
BUT IF I CAN FIND ONE, I OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO CONFIRM WHAT I BELIEVE IS GOING ON.

AND WHAT MIGHT THAT BE?
ASK YOURSELF, AMY. WHY IS IT THAT TWO BOYS ON A HOLIDAY PLANET HAVE NO IDEA THAT'S WHERE THEY ARE?
AND IF THIS IS A TOURIST DESTINATION—

—WHERE ARE ALL THE TOURISTS?

I'LL BE HONEST, DOCTOR. THE 78TH CENTURY ISN'T THE PARADISE YOU MADE IT OUT TO BE.
SEVENTY-EIGHTH?

AH. NOT THE 78TH CENTURY. MORE LIKE THE 79TH... ISH.

IT APPEARS THE HOLIDAY IS LONG OVER.

I AM SORRY, SIR CALLUM. BUT I CANNOT ALLOW IT.
PLEASE, MY LIEGE. I WILL TAKE THREE OF MY STRONGEST MEN. WE WILL ATTACK AT NIGHT.
IT CAN BE DONE! I KNOW IT.
SIRE, THEY HAVE MY DAUGHTER. YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE A FATHER TO ME—YOU KNOW A FATHER'S FEELING.
IT WOULD BE SUICIDE, AND YOU KNOW IT.
YOU ARE LIKE A SON TO ME, BOY. AND THAT IS WHY I CANNOT PERMIT YOU TO FOLLOW AURELIA INTO DEATH.
SHE IS GONE, CALLUM.
YOU! WIZARD! LOOK INTO YOUR CRYSTAL! TELL ME WHAT THE LORDS OF THE DREAD TOWER ARE DOING TO MY DAUGHTER!
CALLUM!

MY SCRYING CRYSTAL CANNOT PIERCE THE VEIL THAT SURROUNDS THAT PLACE, SIR CALLUM.
YOU KNOW THIS.

BUT SOMETHING MUST BE DONE! I CANNOT SIT BY AND DO NOTHING!

WHAT'S THIS?

WHAT DO YOU SEE, GWYDION?
A MAN AND A WOMAN I DO NOT KNOW.
THEY ARE IN THE CITY. THEY HAVE BEEN TALKING WITH YOUR SON, SIR CALLUM.

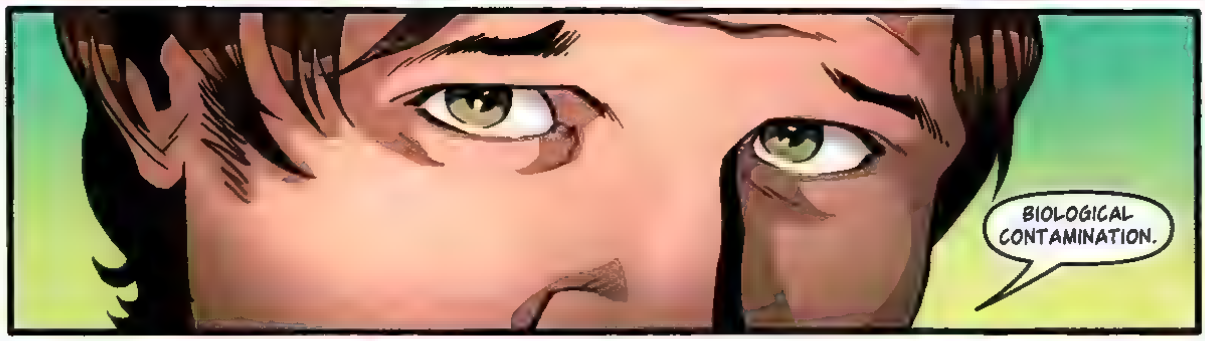
I WILL DETAIN THEM AT ONCE, SIRE.
GO WITH HIM, WIZARD. ENSURE THAT HE DOESN'T KILL ANYONE.

DOCTOR, EXACTLY WHY ARE YOU SONICKING A SHRUBBERY?
BECAUSE THIS ISN'T A SHRUBBERY. IT'S AN ACCESS PANEL.
OKAY, THEN.
NOW, I'VE ONLY GOT LIMITED ACCESS, BUT I SHOULD AT LEAST BE ABLE TO—
WARNING WARNING
QUARANTINE PROCEDURES IN EFFECT. PLEASE REMAIN CALM.
QUARANTINE PROCEDURES? QUARANTINE PROCEDURES FOR WHAT?
DOCTOR? WHAT IS IT?
OH, BLIMEY.

STUPID! STUPID! I AM A STUPID TIME LORD!
DOCTOR? WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S GOING ON?

AMY, I WANT YOU TO LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY AND TRY NOT TO PANIC.
WHY?

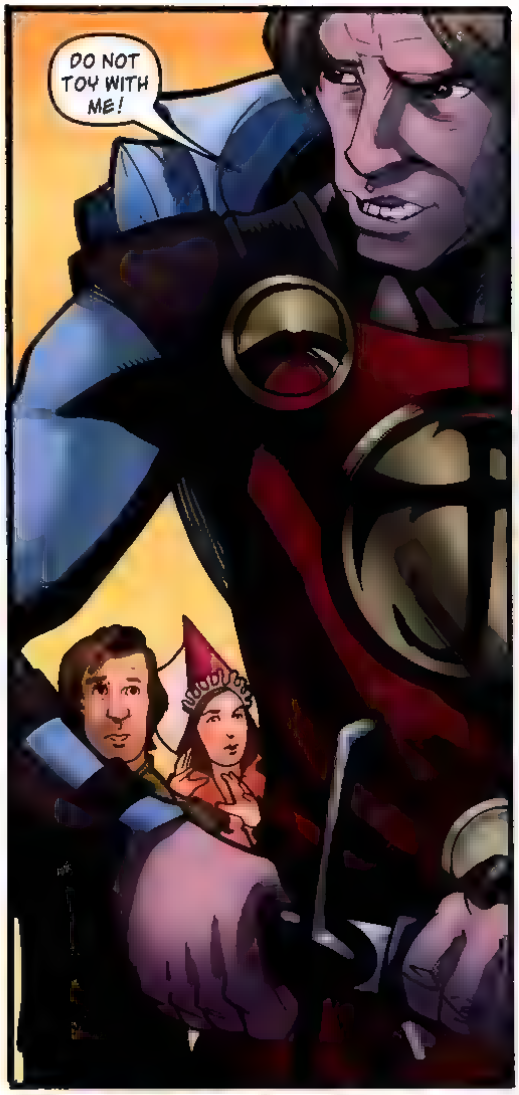
THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT I'VE JUST REMEMBERED WHAT THE RED BLINKY THING ON THE TARDIS CONSOLE IS.
THE BAD NEWS IS THAT IT'S A WARNING LIGHT.
WHAT DOES IT WARN OF?


BIOLOGICAL CONTAMINATION.

BIOLOGICAL WHAT NOW?
IT APPEARS THAT I MAY HAVE ACCIDENTALLY EXPOSED YOU TO A VIRULENT AND DEADLY PLAGUE BY BRINGING YOU TO THIS PLANET.
AND BY 'MAY HAVE', I MEAN... 'HAVE'.

WELL, A FINE FAIRY TALE THIS IS TURNING OUT TO BE!
HOLD THERE!

OH, HELLO!
WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT WERE YOU DOING TALKING TO MY SON, ELIM?
AH, YES. I'M THE DOCTOR, AND THIS IS MY COMPANION AMY.
AND YOU ARE?
I KNOW EVERY MAN, WOMAN, AND CHILD IN THIS CITY, BUT I DO NOT KNOW YOU.
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
AH, YES. THAT.
WE ARE VISITORS TO YOUR CITY, ON AN ERRAND OF PEACE FROM ACROSS THE SEA OF...
WELL, I FORGET WHAT YOU CALL IT. BUT IT'S THE NEAR ONE. WE'RE FROM THE KINGDOM OF FORMICULA... TAN... RUNIA?
I TAKE IT YOU'VE HEARD OF IT? VERY POPULAR KINGDOM.


DO NOT TOY WITH ME!

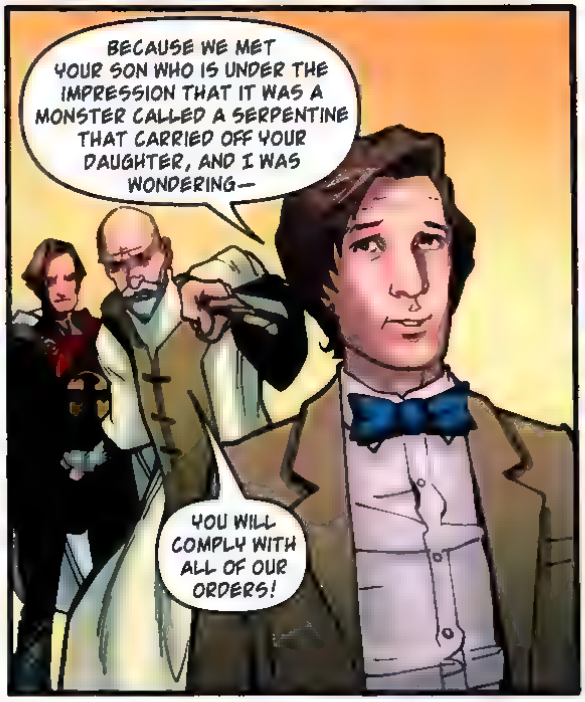
I HAVE SUFFERED A TRAGEDY TODAY AND I HAVE NO PATIENCE FOR STRANGE MEN AND THEIR LIES.

AND I DON'T RESPOND WELL TO POINTY THINGS BEING POINTED AT ME, SO—

—OW!

BLIMEY, THAT'S SHARP! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW DANGEROUS IT IS, WAVING THAT THING ABOUT LIKE THAT?

IF YOU WILL NOT DEAL HONESTLY WITH ME, PERHAPS THE KING CAN MAKE YOU TALK.
TELL ME, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THESE THINGS CALLED SERPENTINES? DO THEY REALLY PREY ON SICK AND INJURED CHILDREN?


BECAUSE WE MET YOUR SON WHO IS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS A MONSTER CALLED A SERPENTINE THAT CARRIED OFF YOUR DAUGHTER, AND I WAS WONDERING—
YOU WILL COMPLY WITH ALL OF OUR ORDERS!

AMY, LOOK AT THIS! IT'S A PSYCHIC-FIELD INDUCER DISGUISED AS A MAGIC WAND! HOW CLEVER IS THAT?
IT WON'T WORK ON ME, OF COURSE. DIFFERENT SORT OF BRAIN THAN IT'S USED TO. BUT STILL, WELL DONE.

IT'S TRUE. THE WAND IS HAVING NO EFFECT.
THEY MUST BE SORCERERS OF A SECRET CABAL, PERHAPS SENT BY THE LORDS OF THE DREAD TOWER THEMSELVES.

YOU WILL COME WITH ME NOW OR I WILL CUT YOU DOWN WHERE YOU STAND!
AMY, YOU KNOW THAT THING WE DO IN SITUATIONS LIKE THIS?
WE SHOULD DO THAT—

—NOW!

GET AFTER THEM!

BACK TO THE TARDIS! HURRY!
YOU TRY HURRYING IN THIS DRESS!

GO!

HOW ARE YOU FEELING, AMY? ANY SYMPTOMS? FEVER? HEADACHE? CRAVING HUMAN FLESH? SLIGHT RASH?
DOCTOR!
OH, CALM DOWN. I WAS ONLY KIDDING ABOUT THE RASH.

DON'T WORRY! THE DISEASE IS SERIOUS, BUT ALL WE'VE GOT TO DO IS GET YOU INTO THE TARDIS MEDICAL BAY.
YOU'LL BE RIGHT AS A TRIVET IN NO TIME.

THE TARDIS.
YES.

AND WHICH TARDIS WOULD THAT BE EXACTLY?
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, AMY. WE LEFT IT RIGHT—

—THERE.
OH. THAT'S BAD.
TO BE CONTINUED.

NEXT MONTH PART 2
A Fairytale Life